

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
JUDICIAL PANEL ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

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March 21, 2005

Honorable Ricardo H. Hinojosa
U.S. District Judge
1701 W Bus Highway 83
Bentsen Tower, Suite 1028
McAllen, TX 78501

Re: MDL-1657—In re Vioxx Products Liability Litigation

Felicia Garza, et al. v. Merck & Co., Inc., et al., S.D. Texas, C.A. No. 7:05-17

Dear Judge Hinojosa:

Presently before the Panel pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407 is a notice of opposition to the Panel's conditional transfer order in the above matter pending before you. The parties will have an opportunity to fully brief the question of transfer and the matter will be considered at a bimonthly Panel hearing session. In the meantime, your jurisdiction continues until any transfer ruling becomes effective.

If you have a motion pending – such as a motion to remand to state court (if the action was removed to your court) – you are free to rule on the motion, of course, or wait until the Panel has decided the transfer issue. The latter course may be especially appropriate if the motion raises questions likely to arise in other actions in the transferee court and, in the interest of uniformity, might best be decided there if the Panel orders centralization.

- Please feel free to contact our staff in Washington with any questions.

Kindest regards,

Wm. Terrell Hodges
Chairman